

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 L-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-05 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 /061 W

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O 111600Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0496

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3979

DEPT REPEAT IF DESIRED TO ANKARA, ATHENS, LONDON, USUN,
USDOCOSOUTH, USEUCOM, USCINCEUR, DIA

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: TURKISH MILITARY MOVEMENTS

REF: STATE 244752

1. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES TELEPHONED NOVEMBER 11 TO STATE THAT GOC MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAD ADVISED UNFICYP FORCE COMMANDER GENERAL PREM CHAND THAT TURKS HAD BY NOVEMBER 9 ADVANCED THEIR FRONT LINE EAST OF NICOSIA ALONG LARNACA ROAD IN VICINITY WD374-913 BY 1500 METERS AS CONTRASTED WITH POSITION ON NOVEMBER 2. CHRISTOPHIDES SUGGESTED WE CHECK WITH GENERAL CHAND. IF LATTER CONFIRMED HIS INFORMATION, GOC REQUESTING APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION IN ANKARA BY USG. CHRISTOPHIDES SAID IDENTICAL DEMARCHE BEING MADE TO UK HIGH COMMISSIONER. CHRISTOPHIDES REFRAINED FROM REFERRING TO TURKISH MOVEMENT AS A CEASEFIRE VIOLATION ALTHOUGH THIS WAS IMPLIED.

2. IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHRISTOPHIDES' CALL, I WAS IN TOUCH WITH GENERAL CHAND. HE WAS ON TOP OF THE SITUATION BUT ASKED FOR AN HOUR TO FORMULATE OFFICIAL COMMENT. HE HAS SINCE CALLED BACK WITH FOLLOWING STATEMENT: BEGIN QUOTE. UN OBSERVATIONS CONFIRM THAT IN RECENT DAYS TURKISH FORCES
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HAVE ADVANCED IN THREE LOCATIONS SINCE NOVEMBER 6.

WD376-931, 400 METERS; WD375-915, 400 METERS; WD408-872, 300 METERS. END QUOTE. COMMENTING, GENERAL CHAND DREW MY ATTENTION TO DISCREPANCY BETWEEN GOC REPORT AND UNFICYP'S. AGGREGATE TURKISH ADVANCE IS 1100 METERS, NOT 1500, AND IS IN THREE SEPARATE LOCATIONS, NOT ONE. CHAND SAID TH" 574(&8 ARGUING WITH UNFICYP THAT LOCATIONS WERE THERE BUT CAMOUFLAGED. UN REGARDS THIS AS UNACCEPTABLE ON BASIS OF ITS "DAILY PATROLS" IN THESE AREAS. UNFICYP CONSIDERS THAT SERIOUSNESS OF TURKISH MOVEMENT LIES IN FACT THAT IT CONSTITUTES CREEPING APPROACH TO CONSOLIDATE CONTROL EAST OF AND UP TO LARNACA ROAD NORTH OF PYROI WHICH PREVIOUSLY ONLY TPOINT AT WHICH TURKISH FORCES HAD BEEN DIRECTLY ON AND ACROSS THE ROAD.

3. CHAND SAID UNFICYP HAS ADVISED UN HEADQUARTERS THAT TURKISH MOVEMENTS CONSTITUTE, IN UNFICYP VIEW, VIOLATIONS OF CEASEFIRE IN THE SENSE THAT CEASEFIRE CONNOTES ALSO A CESSATION OF MOVEMENT.

4. EMBASSY WILL CHECK ALL SOURCES AND ADVISE FURTHER AS SOON AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED. THIS IS INTERIM REPORT PURSUANT REFTTEL. OUR TENTATIVE EVALUATION BASED ON REASONABLE EMBASSY FAMILIARITY WITH AREA AND REVISIT TO PORTION THEREOF BY EMBOFF THIS AFTERNOON IS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN CEASEFIRE LINE IN AREAS SPECIFIED, WHERE LINE HAS ALWAYS BEEN IMPRECISE.
CRAWFORD

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